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Message Text

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52
ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 EA-11 ADP-00 RSR-01 AID-20 CIAE-00

COME-00 EB-11 FRB-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 TRSE-00

XMB-07 OPIC-12 CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 NSC-10

SS-15 STR-08 CEA-02 PA-03 PRS-01 USIA-12 NEA-10 OIC-04

/189 W
---------- 009637
R 231030 Z APR 73
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3346
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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BANGKOK FOR RED

E. O. 11652: N/ A
TAGS: OCON PROF ECAFE
SUBJ: 29 TH SESSION ECAFE: ADDITION TO WORKING LANGUAGES AT
29 TH SESSION

1. AT END PLENARY SESSION APRIL 20 PRC DELEGATE EXPRESSED
GRATITUDE TO ECAFE SECRETARIAT FOR EXCELLENT COOPERATION,
SERVICE AND COURTESY EXTENDED TO CHINA DELEGATION
AT THIS FIRST MEETING AND THANKED EXSEC FOR SIMULTANEOUS
TRANSLATION OF PROCEEDINGS INTO CHINESE. SINCE CHINESE WIDELY
USED IN ECAFE REGION HE ASKED THAT IT BE MADE WORKING LANGUAGE
OF ECAFE. PRC DELEGATE STATED HE REALIZED ECAFE WOULD HAVE
DIFFICULTY IN IMMEDIATELY IMPLEMENTING THIS RECOMMENDATION BUT
SUGGESTED SECRETARIAT PROCEED STEP BY STEP AT FIRST FURNISHING
INTERPRETERS AND EVENTUALLY AS QUALIFIED PERSONS BECOME
AVAILABLE TRANSLATORS COULD BE ADDED. PRC ASKED THAT COMMISSION
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CONSIDER SUGGESTION FAVORABLY. PAKISTAN IMMEDIATELY SUPPORTED
CHINESE PROPOSAL.

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2. U NYUN REPLIED HE WAS GRATEFUL FOR PRC SUGGESTION AS CHINESE IS OFFICIAL LANGUAGE OF UN AND CHINA IS REGIONAL MEMBER OF COMMISSION HE WOULD BE VERY HAPPY TO CONSIDER MATTER IN ACCORDANCE WITH CHINESE DELEGATES STATEMENT THAT FIRST WOULD COME INTERPRETORS AND LATER TRANSLATORS.

3. CHIEF OF USSR DELEGATION NESTERENKO WAS NOT PRESENT AT APRIL 20 PM SESSION WHEN THIS MATTER RAISED BY PRC. FOLLOWING MORNING, AT OPENING OF APRIL 21 AM MEETING, NESTERNKO RAISED OBJECTIONS TO FACT THAT ORDER OF DAY SHOWED THAT PLENARY WAS TO TAKE UP RESOLUTION PORPOSING CHINESE AS WORKING LANGUAGE OF ECAFE. HE CITED RULE EIGHT OF PROCEDURES IN OBJECTING TO SUDDEN PRESENTATION OF NEW ITEM ON AGENDA AND ALSO TO RULE CONCERNING NEED TO HAVE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS WHEN PROPOSAL CONSIDERED WHICH WOULD RESULT IN ADDITIONAL EXPENDITURES. NESTERENKO SAID THAT IT WAS ALSO A MATTER OF GREAT CONVENIENCE TO SOVIET DELEGATION TO HAVE SIMULTANEOUS TRANSLATION OF RUSSIAN AND NOT ONLY TO CHINESE DELEGATION TO HAVE INTERPRESTATION IN CHINESE AT 29 TH SESSION OF ECAFE. SIMULTANEOUS TRANSLATION IN BOTH LANAGUAGES HAD BEEN ARRANGED WELL BEFOREHAND. NESTERENKO INTERVENTION CAUSED CHINESE REP HAVE FURTHER FAIRLY HEATED EXCHANGE BETWEEN USSR AND CHINESE. AT THIS POINT JAPANESE CHAIRMAN OF SESSION SAID MATTER WOULD BE TAKEN UP IN CONSULTATIONS AT COFFEE BREAK.

4. FOLLOWING THIS EXCHANGE, AND BEFORE COFFEE BREAK, DRAFT RESOLUTION SPONSORED BY CHINA AND PAKISTAN HAD BEEN DISTRIBUTED WHICH HAD THE FOLLOWING TEXT. BEGIN TEXT.

NOTING THAT CHINA IS A FULL REGIONAL MEMBER OF THE COMMISSION,

NOTING FURTHER THE DESIRE OF CHINA TO PARTICIPATE TO THE FULLEST EXTENT IN ITS DELIBERATIONS THROUGH THE EXTENSION TO IT OF ADEQUATE WORKING LANGUAGE FACILITIES,

RECOGNIZING THAT CHINESE IS ONE OF THE OFFICIAL LANGUAGES OF THE UNITED NATIONS,

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BEARING IN MIND THE PROVISIONS OF CLAUSE 14 OF ITS PRESENT TERMS OF REFERENCE ESTABLISHED BY THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL,

DECIDES TO AMEND RULE 44 OF ITS RULES OF PROCEDURE BY INCLUDING CHINESE AS A WORKING LANGUAGE OF THE COMMISSION.

END TEXT.

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5. IN PRIVATE CONVERSATION WITH NESTERENKO, US REP SAID IT WAS UNLIKELY THAT EFFORT TO BLOCK STEP- BY- STEP APPROACH TO INTRODUCE CHINESE LANGUAGE COULD SUCCEED. HE SAID US WOULD HAVE DIFFICULTY IN OPPOSING SUCH MOVE, THAT CHINESE PROPOSAL DID CONTEMPLATE GRADUAL APPROACH, AND AFTER ALL CHINESE WAS LANGUAGE OF REGIONAL MEMBER COUNTRY AS WELL AS OFFICIAL UN LANGUAGE. US REP ALSO SAID HE WOULD NOT BE PREPARED TO ACCEPT RUSSIAN INSOFAR AS IT IS NOT LANGUAGE OF REGIONAL MEMBER COUNTRY. AT SAME TIME, USDEL GOT CLEAR IMPRESSION THAT NESTERENKO WOULD HAVE GREAT DIFFICULTY IN TAKING ACTION AT 29 TH SESSION TO ADOPT CHINESE AS WORKING LANGUAGE. NESTERENKO SAID LET US STUDY MATTER AND DECIDE ISSUE AT 30 TH SESSION, AND US REP SAID WHY NOT BOTH STUDY MATTER BUT TAKE CERTAIN STEPS IN MEANTIME AND LEAVE DECISION TO 30 TH SESSION. NESTERENKO SAID HE COULD BUY THIS APPROACH. WITH THIS IN HAND, US REP PRIVATELY COMMUNICATED TO CHINESE REP THAT PROBLEM COULD BE SOLVED IF CHINESE DID NOT PRESS FOR FORMAL AMENDMENT OF RULES AT THIS SESSION TO ADOPT CHINESE AS WORKING LANGUAGE.

6. WHEN COFFEE BREAK CAME JAPANESE CHAIRMAN OF CONFERENCE INVITED EXECUTIVE SECRETARY U NYUN, CHINESE REP AND INTERPRETERS, PAKISTAN REP (WHO CO- SPONSORED RESOLUTION), USSR REP AND INTERPRETER, US REP AND JAPANESE REP TO CONSULT. IN THIS CONSULTATION CHINESE MADE STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF THEIR ORIGINAL RESOLUTION WHICH THEY AMENDED TO ADD ANOTHER OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH AS FOLLOWS: " CALLS UPON THE SECRETARY TO MAKE NECESSARY ARRANGEMENTS AND, IN VIEW OF THE FINANCIAL AND OTHER RELATED PROBLEMS INVOLVED, TO TAKE A GRADUAL APPROACH BY PROVIDING SIMULTANEOUS CHINESE INTERPRETATION AS A FIRST STEP". CHINESE REP WAS SUPPORTED BY PAKISTANI. NESTERENKO REPLIED IN RATHER NEGATIVE FASHION STRESSING DESIRABILITY OF ADDING RUSSIAN ALSO AS WORKING LANGUAGE AND
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USSR AND CHINESE WENT AT EACH OTHER FOR ANOTHER EXCHANGE. US REP THEN OFFERED COMPROMISE WHICH WOULD PUT OFF DECISION ON ADOPTING CHINESE LANGUAGE AS WORKING LANGUAGE UNTIL 30 TH SESSION, BUT ASKED EXECUTIVE SECRETARY TO STUDY MATTER AND TAKE WHAT PRACTICAL STEPS COULD BE MANAGE IN MEANWHILE WITHIN LIMITATIONS. AFTER NESTERENKO PROPOSED DELETION OF FIRST AND THIRD AND FIFTH PREAMBULAR PARAGRAPHS IN CHINESE- PAKISTANI DRAFT, COMPROMISE VERSION WAS ACCEPTED BY ALL PARTIES ENGAGED IN CONSULTATIONS.
THIS APPEARED LATER AS REVISION ONE OF RESOLUTION, ADOPTED BY PLENARY AFTER CHINESE LUNCHEON ON APRIL 21.
TEXT IS GIVEN IN NEXT PARA.

7. BEGIN TEXT.

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NOTING THAT CHINA IS A FULL REGIONAL MEMBER OF THE UN MISSION,

RECOGNIZING THAT CHINESE IS ONE OF THE OFFICIAL LANGUAGES OF THE UNITED NATIONS,

HAVING IN MIND THE POSSIBILITY OF INCLUDING CHINESE AS A WORKING LANGUAGE OF THE COMMISSION,

1. CALLS UPON THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY TO STUDY THE POSSIBILITIES THEREOF, AND TO MAKE NECESSARY ARRANGEMENTS, AND IN VIEW OF FINANCIAL AND OTHER MATTERS, TO TAKE PRACTICAL MEASURES IN A GRADUAL APPROACH BY PROVIDING SIMULTANEOUS INTERPRETATION,

2. DECIDES THAT THE QUESTION OF AMENDING THE RULES OF PROCEDURE BE CONSIDERED AT ITS THIRTIETH SESSION IN 1974.
END TEXT.

8. USDEL COMMENT: SOVIET DELEGATION OBVIOUSLY UNHAPPY AT TURN OF EVENTS. IF NESTERENKO HAD BEEN PRESENT WHEN PROPOSAL FIRST MADE, AND GRADUAL APPROACH VIRTUALLY ACCEPTED BY COMMISSION, PERHAPS HE MIGHT HAVE CREATED ENOUGH DIFFICULTY TO BLOCK A MOVE FOR ANY ACTION. USDEL DOUBTFUL, HOWEVER, THAT CHINESE DELEGATION WOULD HAVE BEEN WILLING TO SEE NOTHING AT ALL DONE. UDSEL DOUBTS WHETHER USSR WILL PRESS FOR RUSSIAN TO BE WORKING LANGUAGE OF ECAFE AT NEXT SESSION, BUT IT WAS VERY CLEAR
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THAT NESTERENKO WOULD HAVE HAD GREAT DIFFICULTY IN MOSCOW IF HE HAD ALLOWED ECAFE TO TAKE FORMAL ACTION ON ACCEPTING CHINESE AS ECAFE WORKING LANGUAGE AT 29 TH SESSION. USDEL BELIEVE OUTCOME WAS SATISFACTORY, RECOGNIZING PREVAILING VIEW WAS TO SUPPORT CHINESE AND THAT CHINESE PUT FORWARD REASONABLE PROPOSAL OF GRADUATED APPROACH. CHINESE DELEGATION SHOWED REASONABLENESS AND PRAGMATISM IN NOT PRESSING FOR ACTION ON FORMAL AMENDMENT OF RULES AT 29 TH SESSION, AND IN THIS WAY ADDED O

WIDESPREAD VIEW THAT GENERALLY THEIR CONDUCT WAS NOT UNCOOPERATIVE AND UNYIELDING. IN PUSHING THEIR POINTS IN DRAFTING COMMITTEE ON OTHER ISSUES CHINESE ALSO WERE NOT OVERLY OBDURATE AND MADE THEIR POINTS WITHOUT PRESSING CASE IN A WAY WHICH WOULD HAVE REQUIRED FIERCE OPPOSITION AND CONTRONTATION. IN FACT CHINESE WERE LESS DIFFICULT THAN USSR DELEGATION.
FINAL USDEL COMMENT IS THAT WHENEVER CHINESE CAN BE MADE A FULL WORKING LANGUAGE WHICH WOULD INCLUDE TRANSLATION OF DOCUMENTS, THAT CAN ONLY BE A GOOD THING INSOFAR AS IT WILL EXPOSE MANY MORE PEOPLE IN CHINA TO OUTSIDE THINKING THAN WOULD OTHERWISE BE THE CASE.
INGERSOLL

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BANGKOK
HONG KONG
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